[Mr. J. Stephenson.]

DEMAND XII---EDUCATION.

MR. J. STEPHENSON (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 70,914 under Demand XII—Education.

The various items are given in the list of demands for supplementary grants furnished to the members by the Secretary to the Council.

The first item is Rs. 41,736 for grants-in-aid to vernacular schools for boys.

The total grant under this head in 1098 was Rs. 4,89,500, of which Rs. 28,400 was a supplementary grant.

The grant for 1099 was Rs. 4,87,000, *i. e.*, less than the total for 1098 by Rs. 2,500.

It is now found that, of this sum, only Rs. 3,766 is available for fresh grants after the existing sanctioned grants are paid. Fresh grants have to be awarded to new schools opened with the permission of the Inspector, and enhanced grants are due to other schools owing to the opening of additional classes or divisions in them or to the replacement of untrained teachers by trained teachers.

For fresh grants, a sum of Rs. 45,502 is required and there is only Rs. 3,766 available as I have already stated. A further sum of Rs. 41,736 is thus required.

The next item is Rs. 13,000 for the purchase of physical and chemical apparatus for His Highness the Maha Raja's College, Trivandrum, now His Highness the Maha Raja's College of Science.

Of this sum, Rs. 10,000 is required for the Physics Department and Rs. 3,000 for the Chemistry Department.

When the College opened in June, 1923, large additions to the numbers taking physics and chemistry in the college were made and the supply of apparatus was found to be quite inadequate for the practical classes in these subjects. Indents have been prepared and exhaustively scrutinised and the sum is urgently required.

The third item is a sum of Rs. 12,054 for the purchase of apparatus, furniture and books for the Women's College in connection with the opening of classes for Group I of the Intermediate course.

The subjects of Group I are Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, and teaching in these subjects began in June last year. Senior Intermediate class will be opened this year.

The total allotment for apparatus, books, periodicals and prizes, and furniture in the current year's budget is Rs. 4,900, and this includes provision for the Junior Intermediate class only of Group I. Provision has to be made for the Senior Intermediate class.

For apparatus, the sum required is Rs. 10,000, for furniture Rs. 1,500 and for books Rs. 500, making Rs. 12,000 in all under these heads.

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Provision has also to be made for an attendant and a peon. During last year, as there was only one class in Physics and one class in Chemistry, the teaching in both subjects was done by the Physics Tutor. This year from July onwards there will be the Senior Intermediate class in addition.

Provision was made in the 1099 budget for a Tutor in Chemistry for two months, so that one may be appointed before the college opens. For assisting this tutor in the preparation of lecture demonstrations and in the practical classes, an attendant and a peon are necessary. It is proposed to appoint a Laboratory attendant on Rs. 18 per mensem and a peon on Rs. 9-1/6-11 for the last two months of 1099. The cost per month will be Rs. 27 and for two months Rs. 54. The total amount required for the Women's College is thus Rs. 12,054.

The fourth item is Rs. 3,674 for the appointment of additional staff and contingencies consequent on the opening of Form VI in the Muvattupuzha, Martandam and Alleppey Mahomedan English High Schools.

The opening of higher forms in these three departmental schools has been a matter of co-operation between the inhabitants of the localities and the Government.

The contributions of the people have been in the form of land, building, furniture and appliances and the funds now asked for are for providing the schools with the necessary teachers, clerical staff and peons and also with the necessary equipment for the opening of Form VI in each of the schools this year, to bring them into line with other complete High schools.

An additional teacher is also required at Muvattupuzha as a fresh division of Form V has to be opened there and one at Alleppey for the teaching of science which is to be begun there.

The grant of Rs. 3,674 asked for is built up as follows :

Rs. 500, the pay of five graduate teachers at Rs. 50 per mensem, for two months in 1099 ;

Rs. 120, the pay of three clerks at Rs. 20 per mensem, for the same period ;

Rs. 54, the pay of two peons at Rs. 9 per mensem, for two months ; and

Rs. 3000 for equipment,—Rs. 1,000 for each school.

The fifth and last item is Rs. 450 for the appointment of nine under-graduate teachers in a special grade for one month.

One teacher is required, as it is proposed to open Form III in the Nedumangad English Middle School, and eight others on account of the opening of eight additional divisions of classes in other English schools. The scale of pay of such teachers is Rs. 50-5/2-70, and Rs. 50—one month's pay—is required for each of the nine teachers.

I commend this proposal for the approval of the Council.

The grant was made.

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